

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 5 with the following amended paragraph:

--To achieve a slurry layer thickness in the ranges described above, several features are provided to the slurry feeder 44. First, to ensure a uniform disposition of the slurry 46 across the entire web 26, the slurry is delivered to the feeder 44 through a hose 58 or similar conduit having a first end 60 in fluid communication with the slurry mixing tank or reservoir 48. A second end 62 of the hose 58 is connected to a laterally reciprocating, cable driven, fluid-powered dispenser 64 of the type well known in the art. Slurry flowing from the hose 58 is thus poured into the feeder 44 in a laterally reciprocating motion to fill a reservoir 66 defined by the rolls 50, 52 and the sidewalls 56. Rotation of the metering roll 4850 draws a layer of slurry 46 from the reservoir 66.--